

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a Notice of Allowance in response to the Amendment received on 3 April 2008. Claims 1, 7, 9 and 11 have been amended. Claims 2, 5, 15 and 16 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-14 remain pending in this application.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-14 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per claim 1, the prior art of record taken alone or in combination fails to teach testing the communication relationships to the other components and, if the communication relationships to the other components are successfully established, transmitting a confirmation message to a central unit and, upon receipt of an activation command from the central unit, resuming normal operation, and if the communication relationships to the other components has errors, transmitting an error message to the central unit.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should

preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Crystal J. Barnes-Bullock whose telephone number is 571.272.3679. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday alternate Mondays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on 571.272.2100. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Crystal J. Barnes-Bullock/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2121
CJB
14 April 2008